

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Commission for a Drug Free Indiana**  
**Commission Meeting**  
**September 21, 2005**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**

Commission Members in Attendance: Chairman John von Arx, James Lyons, Dr. Tim Kelly, Melissa Long, Steve Clouse, Senator Dennis Kruse, Senator Earline Rogers, Sheriff Mark Frisbie,

Commission Member Absent: Ms. Andrea Marshall, Representative Vernon Smith, Steve Camilleri, Donald Parker, County Commissioner Bill McCormick, Rep. Luke Messer, Rev. Andy Hunt.

ICJI Staff in Attendance: Deputy Director of Programs, Kate Gullans, Director of the Youth Division, Michelle Tennell, Director of the Drug & Crime Control Division, Steven King, Assistant Director, Sonya Cleveland, Program Assistant, Jessica Orr, and Meth Watch Coordinator, Cecilia Wylie.

Other Special Guests in Attendance: Tim Retherford, Community Consultant, East Central Region, and Rebecca Smith, Community Consultant, West Central Region.

Call to Order: Chairman John von Arx called the Commission meeting to order. The Chairman announced the chosen day for future meetings to be the third Wednesday of every month.

Welcome and Introductions: Sonya Cleveland introduced Steven King, the Director of the Drug and Crime Control Division, and Kate Gullans, Deputy Director of Programs. Kate obtained an undergraduate degree from Indiana University and completed Master Coursework at the University of Illinois. She began her career at the Institute as a Research Associate and then was promoted to Director of the Youth Division. She now serves as Deputy Director of Programs for the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute.

Kate Gullans introduced Michelle Tennell, the new Youth Division Director. Michelle began with the Institute as a Compliance Monitor. She has advanced the state in the area of juvenile justice compliance and as a result the state of Indiana has received more Federal money towards juvenile programs and become a national model program.

The Chairman introduced Commission members Sheriff Mark Frisbie, Senator Kruse, and Senator Earline Rogers. Each member was asked to provide information about his or her background. Senator Rogers serves District 2 in portions of Lake County including Gary. This is her 15<sup>th</sup> year in the Senate and she has served on the Governor's Commission for the past five years. She started her career as a teacher and is passionate about issues such as drugs and education.

Sheriff Mark Frisbie serves Putnam County in his first term as an elected official. He graduated from Depauw University in 1992 and worked as a Criminal Interdiction Specialist. He brings his law enforcement experience to Commission.

Senator Kruse serves in District 14 and represents the northeastern portion of the state. He has served 15 years on the Commission and is looking forward to new direction and changes.

Approval of Minutes: Melissa Long motioned for the August 18<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting minutes be approved. James Lyons seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

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Youth Update/Role: Tim Retherford presented. There are approximately 22-23 County Youth Councils across the state of Indiana that partner with county LCCs. Tim stated a majority of the LCCs represent high schools in their counties and participation with the Youth Councils should be encouraged. Most high schools have organizations such as S.A.D.D. or PRIDE Teams that can partner with the county LCCs.

Youth Summit 10 will take place October 23-24<sup>th</sup> in Indianapolis. Youth Legislative Day is set for January 24, 2006 and Middle School Youth Summit will begin on February 21 (North Region), February 22 (Central Region), and February 23 (South Region).

Up to 300 students attend Youth Summit. Tim stated the Commission can assist by promoting the Youth Summit event in their communities. Steven King said as a previous Community Consultant, he created a list serve of the youth organizations in his counties to be notified about youth events. Senator Rogers was concerned how the Youth Division was reaching areas that do not have the resources to involve local youth. Kate Gullans suggested that the meetings could be regionalized to accommodate those counties that may not have resources for their youth. Tim suggested developing a Community Action Plan for youth in their counties as well as forming a Youth subcommittee on the Commission to assist with these issues. The Youth Summit application was passed out to each Commission member in attendance. Tim concluded by saying that he and Michelle Tennell hoped to create awareness statewide for Point Of Youth.

Steven King announced that POY Retreat and Youth Summit will address meth-related topics. Two Consultants, Terry Cohen and Lin Montgomery, are forming a meth panel to provide youth the opportunity to discuss concerns about Methamphetamine. The Women's Empowerment Conference, September 26<sup>th</sup>, will have a workshop regarding meth use among teens. Sheriff Frisbie asked if the workshops provided recovering addicts as part of the workshop. Tim Retherford answered that currently there are no recovering addicts attending.

Senator Kruse suggested that LCC chairpersons set up youth organizations in public schools. He suggested getting Youth messages out to more LCCs to create opportunities for youth in all counties. The Senator started youth organizations like S.A.D.D and 4H are established groups that could be used to make a great impact on youth in the communities. Tim Retherford said that 220 S.A.D.D. chapters currently exist in the state of Indiana. Senator Kruse responded that at least 400 4H groups and subgroups exist as well. The Senator suggested making connections between LCCs and youth services in the counties to create a broader spectrum of awareness.

Michelle Tennell stated that as the Youth Division Director, she is an advocate for juvenile justice. She briefly summarized the accomplishments of the Youth Division.

- ❖ *A Parent's Guide for Juvenile Justice System*- an information booklet for parents of juveniles to use as reference for kids within the juvenile justice system. The information packets have been distributed among probation officers and Department of Corrections facilities to assist parents or legal guardians.
- ❖ *P.L.A.Y in Bounds*- a booklet containing legal rights for teens and youths within the juvenile justice system. This booklet is used to answer common questions for those within the juvenile detention facilities to prevent the infringement of rights of juveniles.
- ❖ *Training Manual*- a manual for law enforcement containing the four core requirements for the five year compliance audit in order to ensure Federal

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funding. The manuals were distributed statewide and were recognized by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Detention Programs (OJJDP).

- ❖ *Education Advocacy Manual*- a manual designed for parents, foster parents, and anyone who can legally advocate for juvenile rights.
- ❖ *Youth Grant Awards*- five counties had to develop a Community Action Plan and attend three conferences to obtain the grant monies. CJI was able to award five counties a total of \$301,000. The Community Action Plan serves as a sustainability plan to continue with the county's efforts.
- ❖ *Juvenile Accountability Block Grant*- this Grant is based off of the Uniform Crime Report statistics for each county and could award up to \$450,000 to local communities.

Senator Kruse asked about the collection of data for the Uniform Crime Report and asked if all police agencies were required to submit such a report. Sheriff Frisbie stated that all agencies are required to submit a report to the Federal government. Senator Kruse and Rogers were concerned about the validity of the statistics within the Uniform Crime Report and the funding that may be restricted if the Report is not accurate. More funding may be available if the Uniform Crime Report is reported accurately. Senator Kruse stated that LCCs could go out side of the Local Drug Free Communities Fund for money by applying for Federal grants. He said that DeKalb County received \$150,000 in grants to assist the county in their efforts.

Michelle Tennell asked the Commission to become vital partners and assist with the Youth community.

Melissa Long questioned whether fines are being collected by judges in counties. She mentioned that some judges are not aware to collect these fines. Sheriff Mark Frisbie said that some judges are not even distributing the fines. Senator Kruse suggested that changes need to be made to require judges to cooperate to distribute and collect the fines. Chairman John von Arx said further discussion about the Local Drug Free Communities Fund will be addressed as a topic later in the afternoon.

*Meth Watch Update:* Meth Watch will be launched by early October. Cecilia Wylie stated that Meth-Watch is used to educate the community, retailers, and law enforcement about the effects of meth. She addressed the products listed below as the key factors in the Meth Watch kits:

- ❖ Door Decal- these will be placed on the outside doors of retailers to warn the community that the store has been educated and aware of meth.
- ❖ Shelf Dangler- these will be placed on the shelves where precursors to meth could be obtained and purchased.
- ❖ Cash Register Decal- these will be placed on cash registers near checkouts to warn consumers buying precursors and to remind cashiers to be aware of the purchased products.
- ❖ Tear-off Brochures- these will be placed throughout retailer stores for consumers or store employees to inform about the precursors to meth and the proper avenues for contacting authorities to report suspicious events.
- ❖ DVD's and VHS Tapes- these will be used to educate retail employees how to observe suspicious customers and transactions.

Cecilia stated training for Meth Watch will take place across the state, October 3-7th. An additional training will occur in Indianapolis on October 11<sup>th</sup>. The Meth Watch program is

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completely voluntary by retailers. Senator Kruse asked if Meth Watch is an enactment of SEA 444. Steven King stated that the Meth Watch kits will be used along side of SEA 444, and will reach other retailers that sell precursors besides ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

Meth Watch Indiana is a trademark of Healthcare Products. A total of 8,000 kits have been ordered for distribution throughout the state of Indiana. Cecilia stated that the long-term goal for Meth Watch would be to provide agriculture stickers and tamper-proof seals for anhydrous ammonia tanks. If seals have been tampered with, farmers can call their local police department to plot the area the meth is the most prevalent. Also, she suggested that preparing Meth Watch kits to rental associations will help prevent meth labs within rental apartments and homes. Cecilia provided handouts regarding the number of labs seized in each county for the state of Indiana.

*Meth Free Indiana Coalition:* Steven King stated the Coalition (25 state agencies and 15 outside agencies) is meeting monthly and the working group of 8 agencies will be meeting every three weeks. MethFreeIndiana.org web site has been established and the Meth Hot Line, 877-855-METH (6384), is currently available for the state of Indiana. Melissa Long asked if teachers will be provided with education to identify children in meth homes. Steven said that the Meth Free Indiana Coalition is working with Jeff Barber at the Department of Education to develop training for those in the education field. Steve Clouse was concerned that retailer associates trained by the Meth Watch video might use the information participate in the production of meth. Cecilia Wylie stated that the video was "generic" and did not contain enough information to demonstrate the manufacturing of meth.

Steve Clouse asked how we are sure that the Meth Watch program works. Steven King responded by observing other states', like Oklahoma, successes and failures. Cecilia Wylie stated that so far, the trend for meth labs in the pilots states have been decreasing and continue to decrease each year. Steven King recommended that all store retailers need to get on board and local law enforcement liaisons need to be developed to ensure the program is a success in local communities. He also gave Indiana State Police statistics regarding meth lab seizures in the state. Last year 153 labs were reported and this year a decrease in reported labs to 111. Steven King stated that the Meth Free Indiana Coalition will try to address internet sales of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine.

Steven King concluded with Senate Bill 103, *Combat Meth Act of 2005*, which is sponsored by U.S. Senators Talent and Feinstein. The bill will go to conference committee between the House and the Senate. S.B. 103 will classify ephedrine and pseudoephedrine as a Schedule 5 drug meaning it can only be dispensed through a pharmacy. Steven provided a handout to summarize the major highlights of the bill.

Senator Rogers stated Gary did not have problems with meth, but instead with crack, cocaine. She wanted to know why meth is the drug of choice focused on by this Governor's administration. Steven King answered that National studies show long-term harmful affects of meth on the users. This drug, unlike others, can be produced by anyone and contains toxic ingredients to the environment and to those in the area of a lab. Steven stated that meth is a rural drug because it cannot be easily hidden due to the strong, pervasive odor. Sheriff Mark Frisbie stated that Gary may not be dealing with meth users, but is used a drug outlet for drug trafficking. Steven King also mentioned that only 20% of the meth is produced locally and 80% is produced in Mexico. The Mexican drug cartels are currently manufacturing large quantities of meth and selling it across the borders.

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*The Commission was dismissed for a short break to gather lunch.*

Chairman John von Arx discussed the Commission's role with Meth Free Indiana. He stated that the Commission is charged with establishing an Inter Agency Council on Drugs. The Chairman met with John Viernes of DMHA to identify the council and its' priorities. Senator Kruse responded by giving a brief history of the Council. He suggested that the Council was no longer needed and had been inefficient in the past. Senator Kruse stated that the Inter Agency Council should be eliminated from the Statute. Kate Gullans asserted that the Commission will be able to decide the fate of the Council once it has been identified within the Statute. Chairman John von Arx suggested that the Inter Agency Council could be the "executing arm" of the policies developed by the Commission. Steven King announced that an advisory council is being established for the State Incentive Grant. Louise Polansky is currently making recommendations to the Governor for appointments to the advisory council.

Comprehensive Community Plans:

Sonya requested the Commission assume the responsibility of granting/denying requests for Plan extensions. Over the past few years the decision to grant Plan extension requests was decided by the individual previously in her position. Sonya felt the requests should be given back to the Commission for approval/disapproval.

Sonya brought forward Tippecanoe County and their request for an extension until December 2005. Tippecanoe County just received a new full-time Coordinator, and the LCC has asked for an extension in order to assist the new Coordinator in developing Tippecanoe's CCP. Steve Clouse questioned what the penalty might consist of if the LCC turns in a Plan or Update too late. Sonya stated the only penalty could be to de-certify the LCC as the functioning body.

Steve Clouse made a motion to allow the "Requests for Extension" to be brought forth to the Commission. Senator Rogers suggested that the Commission is not equipped to know the counties needs in order to approve or disapprove of the extension. She suggested that the ultimate decision should be made by Sonya, who actually works with the counties on a daily basis. Senator Kruse suggested that requests should be decided by Sonya Cleveland until the body is focused and has established their role. Melissa Long seconded the motion. All were in favor, except Senator Rogers. Chairman John von Arx asked all members to address such issues in the future and suggested forming a subcommittee to review Plans, Updates, and the Request for Extensions. He also suggested that this subcommittee would work closely with the staff within the Drug and Crime Control Division to make decisions.

Steve Clouse stated that the LCC's should be given notice that the Commission will be active and making crucial decisions. Sonya brought forth Morgan County and that they are out of compliance with their due dates for submitting a Comprehensive Community Plan. Morgan County's CCP was due in May, and the last full plan submitted was submitted two years late. Sonya stated that she would be attending the LCC meeting for Morgan County and would address the issue. All Commission members agreed Morgan County needs to be put on "notice" by Sonya, and to report back to the Commission with the status of the Plan.

Kate Gullans stated that the Drug and Crime Control staff will take a look at Comprehensive Community Plans and strategize new guidelines and format requirements for a more standardized plan. Melissa Long suggested developing a handbook for the Commission, LCC's and Community Consultants regarding policies, procedures, penalties, and due dates for Comprehensive Community Plan for reference.

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Sonya Cleveland strongly urged the Commission members to develop policies and guidelines for the LCC's especially for accountability purposes with the Local Drug Free Communities Fund. She suggested that the Commission be visible on the local level by attending county functions.

Chairman John von Arx requested that a spreadsheet be put together regarding the following information for the Commission members:

- ❖ Comprehensive Community Plan due dates for each county (3 yr. cycle)
- ❖ CCP Update due dates for each county (annually)
- ❖ Full or Part-time Coordinators that exist for the LCC's
- ❖ Fiscal information for each County

**New Business:**

Chairman John von Arx suggested the following subcommittees:

- ❖ Operations (CCP, Updates, and maintaining a relationship with the LCC's)
- ❖ Legislative
- ❖ Youth
- ❖ Strategic Planning

Chairman John von Arx will be meeting with Justice Sullivan and Chief Justice Shepard regarding the Indiana Judicial Conference. Both have expressed interest in working with the Commission to ensure proper collection and distribution of fines.

**Ideas and Concepts for Next Meeting:**

- ❖ Formation of Subcommittees
- ❖ Time frames for Subcommittee meetings and Full Commission meeting

*Meeting Adjourned*

**Next Meeting: October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005**